

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claim:

1. (Once Amended) A method for preparing a thin supported film on a metal substrate having two opposing surfaces, the method comprising:

a. masking off a first surface of the metal substrate with a maskant, leaving a second surface of the metal substrate unmasked;

b. placing the metal substrate under a vacuum;

c. treating the unmasked second surface of the metal substrate by plasma etching;

d. coating the treated second surface of the metal substrate with a film while still under vacuum;

e. removing the metal substrate from the vacuum;

f. removing the maskant from the first surface after the treated second surface is coated with the film;

g. forming a photoresist on the first surface from which the maskant is removed, the photoresist exposing a part of the first surface of the substrate;

h. etching through the part of the substrate of which the first surface is exposed by the photoresist; and

i. removing the photoresist.

3. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the metal substrate is brass.

A3 6. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the maskant is made from liquid film.

A4 12. (Once Amended) A thin supported film on a metal substrate having two opposing surfaces, created by a method comprising:

- a. masking off a first surface of the two opposing surfaces with a maskant, leaving a second surface of the two opposing surfaces unmasked;
 - b. placing the metal substrate under a vacuum;
 - c. treating the unmasked second surface of the metal substrate by plasma etching;
 - d. coating the treated second surface of the metal substrate with a film;
 - e. removing the metal substrate from the vacuum;
 - f. removing the maskant from the first surface after coating the second surface with the film;
 - g. forming a photoresist layer on the first surface to expose a desired pattern of the first surface;
 - h. removing the desired pattern of the first surface; and
 - i. removing the photoresist layer from the first surface.
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A5 14. (Once Amended) The thin-supported film on the substrate of Claim 12, wherein the metal substrate is brass.

17. (Once Amended) The thin-supported film on the

substrate of Claim 12, wherein the metal substrate is made
from liquid film.

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